

PATAGONIA

1

guanacos sea
lions penguins
dolphins rats
that live in
the sand the
whales hug the
shore armadillos
that have been
here 45 million
years

2

wind dusty
sky yellow
soil full of
small round pebbles

at chubut the
yellow cliffs

where desert
eats the sea the
birds and animals
are brown grey

earth colored
like the desert

a little black
and white from
the seals whales
the sea birds

3

a wave of penguins
stretching out like
star flowers on
point lobos

4

indians ate the huge
ground sloths horses
an animal that crawled
along in a shell

the tehuelche boiled
penguins down for
oil when everything

got used up the
people went away
then the seals sea
lions and penguins
came again every

thing that magellan
saw in 1590 except
for the indians

5

mostly its the winds
keep the idly
curious away if

you want to see
patagonia just
sit still long

enough and it will
all blow past you

7

young indian women
painting their skin
red with berries
soaking the sun up
soaking their men
up in the dry leaves
like the opossum
storing fat in its
tail for leaner times

8

birds the same
color as the desert
nests and eggs
the color of sand

birds nests
of thorny twigs

tiny birds you
can't see

whirring trilling

disguised hard
to see as

water in the
fleshy base
of a patagonia
cactus under
the sand

10

punta norte

sea lion bull
with his
harem of females
and their dark pups

like smooth black
stones yelping

11

killer whales

sometimes sea
lions tease
them up on the
land try
to beach them

off punta tombi
tho the whales
can throw a
several hundred
pound lion in
to the air

like a cat
with a mouse

in a few minutes
just bloody scraps

for the kelp
gulls to scavenge

12

on one beach
10,000 cormorants

white throats in
the sun

only one day
in the wind

the birds came
back seaweed

dripping from their
mouths to line

a nest and there
was a huge thud

two birds hit
midair crashed

flopped over
twice dead